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FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1978
PART VII

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

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DISCRIMINATION BECAUSE OF RELIGION: WORK SCHEDULE AND EMPLOYEE RELIGIOUS NEEDS

Informational Hearing

[6570-06]

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

DISCRIMINATION BECAUSE OF RELIGION: WORK SCHEDULING AND EMPLOYEE RELIGIOUS NEEDS

Informational Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has scheduled public hearings to gather information concerning the religious needs of employees as they relate to scheduling of work. The Commission seeks this information in order to develop policy regarding the accommodation of religious needs in the workplace as they relate to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended.

The hearings are scheduled as follows:

April 6, 1978, New York, New York.
April 18, 1978, Los Angeles, California.
May 1, 1978, Location to be announced.

Information is sought from interested persons who have experience in this area. Specifically, the Commission is soliciting information from members and/or representatives of religious groups who have had experience with the conflict of work schedules and religious needs. For example, Saturday Sabbath observances, religious holidays, religious assemblies et cetera.

Further the Commission desires information from the business and labor communities regarding their experiences in this matter. The Commission is interested in learning about the broadest range of alternatives that have been developed by business and labor for accommodating employee religious needs related to work scheduling as it relates to the effective operation of business. The Commission also is interested in learning about the difficulties experienced by employers in this regard.

Persons wishing to testify before the Commission should submit a request to the Executive Secretariat, at the address shown below.

The request should include a written summary of the testimony to be offered and should specify the hearing at which the person wishes to testify. Individuals who wish to testify on April 6 should submit a request no later than March 17. Individuals who wish to testify in Los Angeles should submit a request no later than March 27.

Because of time limitations not all interested persons may be allowed to testify. The Commission will inform persons who have requested an opportunity to testify whether they are scheduled to testify not later than one week prior to the scheduled hearing date. Individuals not able to testify because of time limitations will be given the opportunity to submit a written statement. Individuals wishing to provide information to the Commission but not wishing to testify are encouraged to submit a written statement to the Commission. Such statement must be submitted no later than May 15, 1978, to the Executive Secretariat at the address shown below.

Any information provided the Commission, either by oral testimony or in writing shall be used only for informational purposes by the Commission.

All statements received by the Commission in connection with these public hearings may be reviewed by members of the public in the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Reading Room between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, Library, Room 2303, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 2401 E Street NW., Washington, D.C. 20506.

All hearings will be open to the public. Specific locations will be announced in the FEDERAL REGISTER prior to each hearing.

For further information contact: Peter C. Robertson, (Acting) Director, Office of Policy Implementation, Room 4002, 2401 E Street NW., Washington, D.C. 20506, telephone: 202-634-7060 or 202-254-7489, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. eastern standard time.

Requests to testify and written statements should be addressed to: Executive Secretariat, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 2401 E Street NW., Washington, D.C. 20506.

All correspondence submitted in connection with this announcement should be marked "Religious Discrimination Hearings" at the lower left hand corner of the envelope. Signed this 28th day of February 1978.

FOR the Commission.

ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON,
Chair, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

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